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## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE of PENNSYLVANIA COURTS

### News for Immediate Release

June 24, 2019

#### **Berks County Implementing Electronic Court Notification System**

**HARRISBURG** — In an effort to reduce the number of warrants issued for those failing to appear for court proceedings, Berks County is implementing an electronic notification system which will send text and/or email messages to defendants regarding upcoming criminal court dates.

Berks County is the second county in the state to implement the program, administered by the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania. The notification program begins in July.

“We hope this program increases efficiency, decreases warrants for defendants who may have simply forgotten, and decrease costs for both defendants and for the county,” said President Judge Thomas G. Parisi.

Alerts will be sent three days prior to preliminary hearings at Magisterial District Courts and seven days and again two days prior for all criminal court appearances at the Court of Common Pleas. These reminders will be sent as a courtesy and will not be considered official notice of any upcoming court date.

For more information about the program, visit <http://www.co.berks.pa.us/Dept/Courts/Pages/default.aspx>.

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